

WASTE 2 RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

** MEETING SUMMARY **

May 17, 2011, 9:30 a.m.

Call to Order & Introductions; Operating Principles; Nominations for New Chair - Dean Large & Laurie Davies

Contact: 360-407-6103, Laurie.Davies@ecy.wa.gov

Dean called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Introductions were made and Laurie welcomed new members. She said Ecology will continue to offer videoconferencing statewide for these meetings to reduce travel costs and make it more convenient for committee members to participate.

Dean asked for a motion to approve the March 15 meeting notes. There was a motion to adopt them, which was seconded and the notes were approved.

Laurie talked about the committee's Operating Principles that are in effect until September. They are posted on W2RAC's website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/w2rac/>.

Steve Wambach decided he will not run again for W2RAC Committee Chair. Laurie said she would take nominations for a new Committee Chair at the end of the meeting.

Budget Update - Laurie Davies

Contact: 360-407-6103, Laurie.Davies@ecy.wa.gov

Laurie said an additional \$3 million cut to the litter control account (WRRLCA) was proposed, along with proviso language that says Ecology may not use WRRLCA funds to work on the Beyond Waste Plan, the 1-800 Recycle Hotline, C&D recycling, green building and national recycling issues. The proviso also directs Ecology to prioritize remaining funds to support litter pickup using correctional crews, regulatory programs and technical assistance to local government. If this passes, Laurie said she does not know if she will have enough funding to keep everyone in the Waste 2 Resources Program employed.

CPG Guidelines – Shelly McMurry

Contact: 360-407-6223; shelly.mcmurvy@ecy.wa.gov

Shelly gave the group a PowerPoint presentation on the status of updating the CPG Guidelines. Her presentation is posted on the W2RAC website. She explained the process to update the guidelines, which included user testing.

Comments on the draft guidelines were due yesterday. W2RAC can still send comments to Shelly at shelly.mcmurvy@ecy.wa.gov.

The new guidelines will be distributed in mid to late June, followed by training sessions in July.

Mercury Lights Guidelines – Kara Steward

Contact: 360-407-6250; kara.steward@ecy.wa.gov ,

Kara gave the group a PowerPoint presentation on the mercury lights law and required product stewardship program. The program will start in January 2013. Her presentation and detailed notes are posted on the W2RAC website.

Ecology's current work involves collecting producer fees; developing guidelines; working with stakeholders; and preparing to approve producer plans, and register producers and collectors.

The law requires each producer to pay \$5000. Many smaller businesses say the fee isn't fair. There is a potential \$200,000 revenue stream, which would fund about one FTE.

Kara will send W2RAC an email within the week to solicit comments on the draft guidelines and invite them to sign up for the listserv. More information is available on the Mercury Lights Product Stewardship website at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/swfa/mercurylights.

Commingled Recycling – Shannon McClelland

Contact: 360-407-6398, Shannon.mcclelland@ecy.wa.gov

Shannon gave the group a PowerPoint presentation on the WA Commingled Recycling Improvements Project. Her presentation is posted on the W2RAC website. She said this discussion is timely because decisions may be made at a meeting this Thursday.

Of the three workgroups working on the recycling project, the Southwest Region workgroup has been the most active. A lot of their current focus is on consistency in programs and coming to agreement on what that looks like.

Three categories are established for commingled recycling: What to include in the commingled cart, what not to, and materials that are "maybes." Shannon shared proposals that will be considered at Thursday's meeting:

- Proposal 1: Deemphasize materials – Not included on the "yes" list, but not removed from the program.
- Proposal 2: Add in materials to be more consistent among jurisdictions.
- Proposal 3: Remove materials that we know are problematic in the commingled system.

Plastic film and bags have great value if kept separate from other recyclables. However, if the material gets degraded, it turns to "MRF" film that wraps around machinery and causes significant problems. *See the educational sign posted on W2RAC's website that Shannon provided after this meeting.*

For more information, please see the Beyond the Curb Report at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/1007009.html>.

Composting Study – Chery Sullivan
Contact: 360-407-6915, chery.sullivan@ecy.wa.gov

Ecology is working on a compost emissions and odor study. This research will help answer questions about emissions (odors and toxicity) from compost facilities, and may inform the compost rule making process, which is moving forward, separate from the other sections in the solid waste rule.

Chery said a total of \$200,000 will be spent by June 30, 2011 on the study:

- PSCAA (\$25,000 from WRRLC) on mobile GC/MS.
- WSU (\$50,000 from WRRLC, \$50,000 from WQ EPA grant) on emissions sampling and analysis.
- Ecology (\$75,000 from WRRLC) on emissions sampling and analysis.

Ecology is looking for an additional \$50,000 from the compost industry to complete the WSU scope of work to adequately address how the composting process and feedstocks contribute to emissions. That money will likely be funneled through the Washington Organic Recycling Council's Research Committee.

Nominations for New Committee Chair

Jerry Smedes nominated Dean Large as Chair. David Baker nominated John Sherman as Vice-Chair. Laurie will follow up with Dean and John.

Agenda Items for Future Meetings

- Update from EPA Region 10 on Solid Waste Issues on Tribal Lands – Fran Stesan, July 2011
- Results of Pierce County Health Department's Closed and Abandoned Landfill Study - John Sherman, July 2011
- Presentation on Public Participation Grants - Jason Alberich, July 2011
- Procurement of Recycled Content and Other "Green Products" Related to Legislation Ecology Worked on with General Administration – July 2011

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Submitted by: Susanne McLemore